- Provision of services for management of HIV—TB co-infection in six high prevalence States has been started with support from Global fund.
- Mass media campaign to achieve total awareness about prevention of HIV/AIDS.
- Phase I human clinical trials of recombinant Adeno-associated Virus (AAV) vaccine started at National AIDS Research Institute, Pune from 7th February, 2005.
- Programme for Prevention of Mother to child transmission expanded to 288 centres.

Discouraging smoking among the youth

559. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh initiative is being taken by Government to discourage cigarette smoking especially among the youths in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government of India enacted the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 which, *inter alia*, contains provisions which ban sale of tobacco products to minors, sale of tobacco products around educational institutions, ban on direct or indirect advertisement of tobacco products and ban on smoking in public places including educational institutions. These provisions aim at discouraging tobacco use especially among the youth in the country. Besides ensuring effective enforcement of this law, action is taken to increase awareness among members of the civil society including youth about the ill effects of tobacco use and the urgent need to quit the habit.